

# CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1           1.     A system for extracting an embedded audio file from an image file,  
2     comprising:  
3           a software code segment for extracting an audio file embedded in an image file;  
4           a memory for storing the extracted audio file; and  
5           a software code segment for associating the extracted audio file with the image  
6     file.

1           2.     The system of claim 1, wherein the extracted audio file and the image file  
2     are attached to an email message.

1           3.     The system of claim 2, wherein the extracted audio file and the image file  
2     are represented in the email message by separate icons.

1           4.     The system of claim 1, wherein the image file is compressed.

1           5.     The system of claim 1, wherein the software code segment for extracting  
2     the embedded audio file analyzes the image file for a marker representing the embedded  
3     audio file.

1           6.     The system of claim 1, wherein the extracted audio file and the image file  
2     are separately executable.

1           7.       A method for allowing a recipient of an electronic mail message to play  
2       an audio file embedded in an image file, comprising:  
3           providing an image file having an embedded audio file;  
4           extracting the embedded audio file;  
5           storing the extracted audio file; and  
6           associating the extracted audio file with the image file.

1           8.       The method of claim 7, further comprising attaching the extracted audio  
2       file and the image file to an email message.

1           9.       The method of claim 8, further comprising representing the extracted  
2       audio file and the image file using separate icons.

1           10.      The method of claim 7, further comprising compressing the image file

1           11.      The method of claim 7, further comprising extracting the embedded  
2       audio file by analyzing the image file for a marker representing the embedded audio file.

1           12      The method of claim 7, wherein the extracted audio file and the image  
2       file are separately executable.

1           13.     A system for allowing a recipient of an electronic mail message to play an  
2 audio file embedded in an image file, comprising:

3                 means for providing an image file having an embedded audio file;

4                 means for extracting the embedded audio file;

5                 means for storing the extracted audio file; and

6                 means for associating the extracted audio file with the image file.

1           14.     The system of claim 13, further comprising means for attaching the  
2 extracted audio file and the image file to an email message.

1           15.     The system of claim 14, further comprising means for representing the  
2 extracted audio file and the image file using separate icons.

1           16.     The system of claim 13, further comprising means for compressing the  
2 image file.

1           17.     The system of claim 13, further comprising means for extracting the  
2 embedded audio file by analyzing the image file for a marker representing the embedded  
3 audio file.

1           18.     The system of claim 13, further comprising means for separately  
2 executing the extracted audio file and the image file.